

NEW AND RARE LEPIDOPTERA FROM
THE SOUTHWEST

BY WM. BARNES AND F. H. BENJAMIN

Decatur, Illinois

TIMOCHARES RUPTIFASCIATUS Ploetz

- 1884, Ploetz, Jahr. Nass. Ver. Nat., XXXVII, 27, *Antigonus*.
1896, Godman & Salvin, Biol. Centr.-Amer., Lep., Rhop., II, 418,
pl. LXXXVIII, ff. 1-2, *Timochares*.
1901, Skinner, Ent. News, XII, 171, *Timochares*.
1905, Dyar, Jour. N. Y. Ent. Soc., XIII, 119, *Timochares*.
1921, Lindsey, Hesp. Am., p. 56, *Timochares*.
1923, Skinner & Williams, Trans. Am. Ent. Soc., XLVIII, 305, fig.
29 ♂ genit., *Timochares*.

Apparently U. S. records of this species are rare. Lindsey records a specimen from Brownsville, Texas, Barnes collection, but Skinner and Williams have apparently overlooked this and record only the Runyon catch from Southern Arizona or California.

Mr. O. C. Poling recently sent a specimen from the Baboquivari Mts., Pima County, Arizona, 20 September, 1924. This we submitted to Mr. Shaus for comparison with his Mexican specimens as the markings are somewhat darker than those of the Texas specimen before us.

***Polia stricta* race *kappa* Barnes & Benjamin, nov.**

Head and thorax ferruginous, more or less darkened by black scales. Abdomen luteous, tinged with rufous. Fore wing variable in color, the ground color some shade of luteous, suffused with bright ferruginous red and more or less darkened by black scales, in general the ferruginous cast dominant; basal maculation indistinct but basal dash usually present on the freshest specimens. Ordinary lines, spots, and maculation, as in typical *stricta*. Hind wing of ♂ white, the veins and outer margin more or less soiled by fuscous. An obsolescent discal spot. Fringe white at tip, with an obsolescent interline and yellowish-white base. Hind wing of ♀ similar but with more fuscous on it.

Expanse: ♂, 23-28 mm., ♀, 24-28 mm.

Similar to typical *stricta* but differing from all described forms by the much paler hind wings which are nearly as white as those of *spiculosa*.

At first we considered the present subspecies to be *tenisca* and may have determined it as such for other collections. "*Mamestra*" *tenisca* was described by Smith from a series of specimens from Bozeman, Montana, and Stockton, Utah, the type ♂ being a Bozeman specimen in the Smith collection. The recent acquisition of a series of specimens from both of the type localities of *tenisca* show that Nevada material is not quite typical as it varies from forms nearly as pale as *kappa* to forms as dark as *tenisca*. The specimen from Reno, Nevada, figured by Barnes & McDunnough (1913, Contrib. N. H. Lep. N. A., II, (1), 22, pl. X, f. 10) seems nearly typical of ♀ *tenisca*. While all forms of *stricta* seem more or less variable in each locality, and Nevada material is intermediate, producing some specimens which can be placed under any of the present subspecific names, nevertheless our series of the white hind winged form is so distinct from the variations found in the type localities of the described subspecies, and in itself is so constant with its pale secondaries, that we have no hesitation in describing it.

Type locality: Inyo County, California, mostly from Round Valley.

Number and sexes of types: Holotype ♂, 15-30 Aug., Allotype ♀, 220 Paratypes, both sexes, various dates Aug., Sept., Oct.; O. C. Poling collector. Types in Barnes collection.

***Graptolitha tarda* Barnes & Benjamin, sp. nov.**

Head, collar and thorax dull ash gray mixed with black. Thoracic crest large, marked by a slim black stripe. Abdomen basally gray, caudally more ochreous. Fore wing dull ash-gray, the costal region somewhat paler than the remainder of the wing. Ordinary lines and spots obsolescent, nearly obsolete; no basal line or dash; t. a. line marked by a few black scales; median line similar; their course indeterminate. Orbicular absent; reniform mainly visible as a slight rufous cast at end of cell. T. p. line so poorly marked its exact course cannot be seen, but apparently with a tendency to be produced to points on the veins and to be bent inward in submedian fold where it shows as a V pointed inward, and is connected to a pointed claviform by a small black bar. S. t. line indicated by a few scattered black scales. Veins of terminal area slightly darkened. Fringe a little browner than the wing color and obscurely interlined. Hind

wing pale red-brown with a decided pinkish cast; usual discal dot and terminal line present but not conspicuous. Fringe pale, whitish tinged with pink. Beneath: dull; fore wing gray tinged with pink; hind wing whitish tinged with grey and pink. Discal dot present on each wing.

Expanse: 36 mm.

Allied to *fagina* and *itata*. Smaller, duller, and darker than the former, with the markings not so distinct, but although at once separable, closely allied by the paler costal area, lack of a basal dash, and the proximity of the claviform to the t. p. line, leaving room for only a very short black dash in the submedian fold. Closely allied to *itata*, with which it agrees in wing-shape, size, and general color. In true *itata*, as represented by the types, there is a tendency for the transverse maculation to be obscured, but the black dashes in the reniform, and the median and subterminal parts of the submedian fold are distinct, as is the subapical shade. While the present species has the distinct bar in the submedian fold connecting the claviform to the t. p. line, the remainder of the longitudinal maculation has been so reduced that it is invisible except for the faint indication of a few black scales, while the orbicular is entirely absent and the reniform mainly indicated by a reddish suffusion. The legs of the present species lack the strong longitudinal black lines present, one on each leg, of allied species.

Type locality: Douglas, Arizona.

Number and sexes of types: Holotype ♂, 16-23 June, unique, in Barnes collection.

***Xanthothrix ranunculi* form *albipuncta* Barnes & Benjamin,**
nov.

Head, thorax and fore wing black dusted with olivaceous, the latter with a round white spot near end of cell. Secondaries blackish. Other characters as in *ranunculi* which is a very variable species.

Expanse: ♂, 11 mm.; ♀, 10 mm.

No mention is made in the original description of *ranunculi* of any white spotted form, nor do the types in the Henry Edwards collection show any traces of spots on the primaries.

Type locality: Kaweah, California.

Number and sexes of types: Holotype ♂, Allotype ♀, both 10 April, 1902, in Barnes collection.

LANIIFERA CYCLADES Druce

1895, Druce, Biol. Centr.-Amer., Lep., Het., II, 220, pl. LXI, ff. 12-13, *Pachynoa*.

1899, Hampson, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., p. 184, *Laniifera*.

1903, Dyar, Bull. U. S. N. M., LII, 380, No. 4328, *Laniifera*.

We received a single specimen from O. C. Poling, Baboquivari Mts., Pima County, Arizona, 1-15 August 1923, which agreed well with Druce's figures and with a specimen from Mexico, ex Kearfott collection. A second specimen has been received from Dr. Vorhies of the Arizona Experiment Station bred from prickly-pear and labeled Santa Rita Mts., Arizona, VI-23-24.

This species, described from Mexico, was recorded in Dyar's list from Arizona, presumably by Prof. Fernald.

In view of the recent research in insect enemies of the prickly-pear, this note may be of some importance. The insect is a member of the Pyralid subfamily Pyraustinae, is of large size and decided possibility in the control of the cactus.

THE VAN DUZEE COLLECTION OF HEMIPTERA

At the regular August meeting of the California Academy of Sciences, Mr. E. P. Van Duzee presented to the Academy his entire collection of Hemiptera under practically the same conditions under which the Van Dyke Collection of Coleoptera was accepted by the Academy last year, as announced in this journal (Vol I, page 13). Under these conditions he retains general supervision over the collection during his lifetime with the privilege of temporarily withdrawing for study any of the specimens he may need for use at home. He also stipulated that each specimen in this collection is to have attached a label to read "E. P. Van Duzee Collection," and that all these specimens are to be incorporated into the systematic collections of the Academy and that they are not to be used for exchange or for exhibition purposes. These conditions secure to him the use of the material during his lifetime and safeguard it against being dissipated or lost through carelessness or mismanagement in the future.